

Application No. 09/770,078
Amendment dated October 4, 2005
Reply to Office Action of July 7, 2005

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-31, and 35-47 were pending in the application; the status of the claims is as follows:

Claims 35-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,289,464 B1 to Wecker et al. ("Wecker") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,068,183 to Freeman et al. ("Freeman").

Claims 21-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Freeman in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,380,991 to Valencia et al. ("Valencia"), and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,359,182 to Schilling ("Schilling").

Claims 1, 3-20, 24-31, and 45-47 are allowed.

Claims 21-23 and 35-44 have been cancelled from the present application, in consideration of a subsequent divisional application, so that the present application can be moved to allowance.

Only allowed claims 1, 3-20, 24-31, and 45-47 remain pending.

CONCLUSION

Wherefore, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is considered to be in condition for allowance, and an early reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

This Amendment does not increase the number of independent claims, does not increase the total number of claims, and does not present any multiple dependency claims. Accordingly, no fee based on the number or type of claims is currently due. However, if a

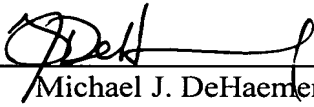
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fee, other than the issue fee, is due, please charge this fee to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

If an extension of time is required to enable this document to be timely filed and there is no separate Petition for Extension of Time filed herewith, this document is to be construed as also constituting a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for a period of time sufficient to enable this document to be timely filed.

Any other fee required for such Petition for Extension of Time and any other fee required by this document pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17, other than the issue fee, and not submitted herewith should be charged to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Any refund should be credited to the same account.

Respectfully submitted,

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